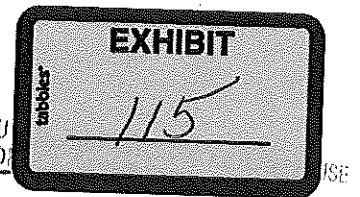




WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL
PO BOX 283, WASHINGTON DEPOT, CT 06794



FEB 01 2010

January 27, 2010

Paul E. Stacey, Director
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
Planning and Standards Division
Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Re: Proposed Stream Flow Regulations in Response to
Public Act 05-142

Dear Mr. Stacey:

On behalf of the Washington Environmental Council's Directors, Advisory Board and Members, I would like to submit our comments on the Department's proposed stream flow regulations in response to Public Act 05-142.

The Washington Environmental Council was founded in 1971 to protect the Environment in and around our beautiful town. We have fought a number of environmental battles to stop various industries from despoiling our landscape.

By far the most costly and difficult defense was our recent effort to save the Shepaug River from diversions by the town of Waterbury's old and inefficient system. A long expensive court battle was fought with money in every amount donated by the people of our town. A negotiated settlement obligated the State of Connecticut to spend over 3 million dollars.

Our river is protected now, by a hard won court settlement. If the proposed regulations had been in place, we would have been saved these extraordinary costs in time and money. We believe that the Department's draft proposal achieves a good balance between the needs of conservation and development. We strongly support the adoption of the proposed stream flow regulations.

If the regulations are altered significantly from the proposed form, we will wish a further review.

Thank you for your efforts to produce and enact these regulations.

Very sincerely,

Carlos Canal
President

Board of Directors

Carlos Canal, President – Sarah Gager, Vice President – John Maxwell, Treasurer – Karen Craparo, Secretary
Cheryl Anderson – Natalie Dyer – Gretchen Farmer – Sarah Jenkins – Frances Owles – Eliza Paolucci – Dan Sherr – Van Vogel

Advisory Board

Denise Arturi – Randy Bernard – Betsy Corrigan – Ashley Goodale – Seth Low – Patsy Matthews – Susie Payne